

**What is claimed is:**

1. A portable audio amplifying apparatus comprising:
  - 5        a receptacle for receiving a portable handheld multimedia device;
  - 10      a connecting means for connecting the portable handheld multimedia device to the receptacle;
  - 15      an amplifier means for amplifying a plurality of audio signals from the portable handheld multimedia device;
  - 20      at least one audio speaker for delivering quality audio generated by the amplifier means;
  - 25      a power source means for supplying electricity to the amplifying means and the audio speakers; and
  - 30      a handle on the top of the apparatus to enhance portability.
2. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the portable handheld multimedia device is an MP3 player (such as IPOD™, an IPOD™ 2.0, an IPOD™ 3.0 and IPOD™ mini players) or any other suitable portable handheld multimedia asset player for recording, organizing, transmitting, manipulating, and reviewing audio files.
3. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the audio speakers are OEM or after-market audio speakers.
- 35      4. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the receptacle comprises a door assembly and a lock plate assembly operatively linked to the receptacle.
5. The receptacle of claim 1 as set forth in Figure 2.

6. The apparatus of claim 4, wherein the door assembly comprises a door, a brace, and an axle.

7. The door assembly of claim 1 as set forth in Figure 9.

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8. The apparatus of claim 6, wherein the door is "L"-shaped.

9. The apparatus of claim 6, wherein the door is constructed of high-quality ABS injection molded plastic to protect the  
10 portable handheld multimedia device from the elements.

10. The apparatus of claim 6, wherein the door contains an opening to enable the listener to access the display and control buttons of the portable handheld multimedia device.

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11. The apparatus of claim 6, wherein the opening in the door is a shaped hole cut in the shell of the door.

12. The apparatus of claim 6, wherein rubber sheet foam cut in  
20 strips and with fabric lining is adhered with adhesive to the plastic interior of the door to gently cradle and protect the portable handheld multimedia device from scratches.

13. The apparatus of claim 6, wherein the door is large enough  
25 to release the portable handheld multimedia device up and out of the front compartment.

14. The apparatus of claim 6, wherein the brace is "L"-shaped.

15. The apparatus of claim 6, wherein the brace is constructed  
of durable metal, such as stainless steel, or other suitable  
material to maintain the overall longevity of the door.

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16. The apparatus of claim 6, wherein the brace is designed to  
prevent the door from accidentally opening when the door is  
closed, thus preventing the portable handheld multimedia  
device from accidentally falling out of the front  
compartment.

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17. The apparatus of claim 6, wherein the axle is located in the  
door hinge to further prevent the door from accidentally  
opening, thus securing the portable handheld multimedia  
device from accidentally falling out of the front compartment.

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18. The apparatus of claim 6, wherein the axle is constructed  
of durable metal, such as stainless steel, or other suitable  
material to maintain the overall longevity of the door.

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19. The apparatus of claim 4, wherein a narrow space is carved  
in along one side of the wall to receive the connecting means.

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20. The apparatus of claim 4, wherein the lock plate assembly  
comprises a plate, a spring mechanism and a plug connector  
pad on top of the plate.

21. A lock plate assembly of claim 1 as set forth in Figure 12.

22. The apparatus of claim 20, wherein the lock plate assembly is placed between the door and the back wall of the receptacle.

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23. The apparatus of claim 20, wherein the plate is constructed of high-quality ABS injection molded plastic to protect the portable handheld multimedia device from the elements.

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24. The apparatus of claim 20, wherein the sides of the front plate are slightly raised to "cup" the portable handheld multimedia device and prevent it from accidentally falling out of the receptacle.

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25. The apparatus of claim 20, wherein rubber sheet foam cut in strips and with fabric lining is adhered with adhesive to runners on the surface of the front plastic plate to gently cradle and protect the portable handheld multimedia device  
20 from scratches.

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26. The apparatus of claim 20, wherein the spring mechanism is attached to the rear of the plate.

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27. The apparatus of claim 20, wherein the spring mechanism is designed to push the plate forward to maintain the tight fit of an MP3 player or any other portable handheld multimedia

device that is smaller than the original IPOD™ (such as IPOD™ 3.0 and IPOD™ mini players).

28. The apparatus of claim 20, wherein all the pieces of the plug  
5 connector pad on top the lock plate is constructed of "snug" cast rubber to allow the user to rotate and move the plug laterally in any direction to set its position once for desired tight fit and not have to set it again later.
- 10 29. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the connecting means comprises an input plug, a finger grasp, a spring mechanism, and a cable connector.
- 15 30. A connecting means of claim 1 as set forth in Figure 10.
31. The apparatus of claim 29, wherein the connecting means is nestled in the space in the sidewall of the receptacle.
32. The apparatus of claim 29, wherein the input plug is a standard  
20 3.5mm mini stereo plug.
33. The apparatus of claim 29, wherein the input plug is attached to the finger grasp.
- 25 34. The apparatus of claim 29, wherein the finger grasp is used to place the input plug into the "audio out" or "headphone" jack of the portable handheld multimedia device.

35. The apparatus of claim 29, wherein a finger grasp for the input plug is uniquely shaped to accommodate large fingers in the small space of the interior of the receptacle.

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36. The apparatus of claim 29, wherein the input plug is attached to cable connector.

37. The apparatus of claim 29, wherein the cable connector is  
10 placed between the finger grasp and the spring mechanism to secure the input plug in place.

38. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the amplifier means comprises an input cable and an audio signal sensor.

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39. The apparatus of claim 38, wherein the input cable runs into a signal sensor and automatically switches on the amplifier.

40. The apparatus of claim 38, wherein the signal sensor sends  
20 audio signals to the amplifier, which then sends the amplified signals to the audio speakers.

41. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the power source means is located in the rear compartment of the portable audio  
25 amplifying apparatus.

42. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein electricity is supplied

to the power source means by an AC power source via an AC to DC converter.

43. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein electricity is supplied  
5 to the power source means by a plurality of batteries.

44. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein electricity is supplied  
to the power source means by a battery module.

10 45. The apparatus of claim 43, wherein the batteries are  
rechargeable batteries.

15 46. The apparatus of claim 1 with the portable handheld multimedia device inserted into the receptacle is as set forth in Figure  
18.

47. A method for operating the portable audio amplifying apparatus as recited in claim 1 comprising steps of:

20 a) Inserting four AA batteries into a power source means for receiving batteries in the rear compartment of the apparatus;

b) Pressing a button on top of the apparatus to open the door;

25 c) Grabbing an input plug using a finger grasp and pulling the connecting means aside as set forth in Figure 13;

- d) Sliding the portable handheld multimedia device into the receptacle as set forth in Figures 14;
- e) Once the portable handheld multimedia device is in place, placing the input plug using the finger grasp into the "audio out" or "headphone" jack as set forth in Figure 16;
- 5 f) Closing the door until the "L"-shaped brace of the door assembly clicks and locks in;
- g) Once the door is closed, adjusting placement of the input plug to ensure the portable handheld multimedia device fit
- 10 the lock plate assembly as set forth in Figure 15;
- g) Adjusting the audio output by adjusting buttons and wheel controls of the portable handheld multimedia device through the door of the receptacle;
- h) Sliding the handle in the back of the unit straight up
- 15 for portability of the amplifier; and
- i) Pressing the button on the top of the amplifier to release the door and remove the portable handheld multimedia device.